

In re Patent Application of:
DENNIS
Serial No. **10/072,460**
Filing Date: **FEBRUARY 7, 2002**

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the present application. Applicant would also like to thank the Examiner for allowing method Claims 17-36, and for correctly indicating as allowable the subject matter of dependent device Claims 38-42. The arguments supporting patentability of the claims are provided in detail below.

I. Independent Claim 37 Is Patentable

Independent device Claim 37 has been rejected over the Nobutani et al. patent. The present invention, as recited in independent device Claim 37, is directed to a solid state image sensor system comprising an array of pixels comprising a plurality of border pixels, with the plurality of border pixels having data encoded therein by color processing. The present invention advantageously allows the encoded data in the plurality of border pixels in the solid state image sensor system to be read during manufacture of the image sensor, during assembly of an imaging system using the image sensor, or during use of the image sensor, for example.

Referring now to the Nobutani et al. patent, a display control apparatus for a display device is disclosed. In particular, the Examiner has characterized the display control apparatus as a solid state image sensor. The Applicant respectfully submits that a solid state image sensor is different from a display device. In other words, the Examiner has mischaracterized the display device in Nobutani et al. as an image sensor.

In addition, in the present invention, the plurality

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of border pixels have data encoded therein by color processing. The border pixels in Nobutani et al. does not store encoded data. Instead, border pixel data provided by the border pixels via the boarder generator **13** in Nobutani et al. is to simply form a visual border on the display device. In sharp contrast, the border pixels as recited in independent Claim 37 store encoded data therein.

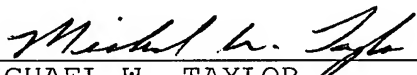
Accordingly, it is submitted that independent device Claim 37 is patentable over Nobutani et al. In view of the patentability of independent Claim 37 as discussed above, it is submitted that the dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features, are also patentable over the prior art. Thus, these dependent claims require no further discussion herein.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the arguments provided herein, it is submitted that all the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, on this 17th day of June, 2004.

